7/25/72

Dear Dana,

Your envelope with the letters and tapes came today. Thanks.

Should youfeel any faint pangs of the maybe-I-ought-to-do-something besides-enjoy kind, it would still be good to have the court of appeals decision, the petition cert and what since I last wrote you seems necessary to look at, a transcript of the case, I believe it is called in some courts, or the summary of what happened from the clerk's office. What papers were filed when and by whom, with what appearances.

As you now realize, from your long silence I had asked Carol nee Ray to phone you. It may have taken her some time to do this. She phoned me after midnight Saturday night, after the closing of Brushy Mountain Prison, when James and other prisoners had been moved to Nashville. She and Jerry are concerned because, as Jerry had learned from a reporter, James is back in a tiny and apparently isolation cell. During this conversation I asked her about what James had told me, that Stoner was not alone in the court below. I had gotten the distinct impression from Hampe that he did not come in until he was appointed to handle the appeal and that he had inherited the most terrible record he had ever seen. Carol is pretty sure she paid Hampe some money before the appeal. Not knowing anything about this and having heard nothing except that Stoner had handled the case, I did not ask John. Carol thinks that Stoner was in St. Louis but twice on the case, which is hardly preparing it.

It now appears but is by no means certain that a federal prisoner was put in the same cell with John before trial. He seems to have known more about John's life than a biographer. By the time John suspected he was an informant and complained, it took little time to get him out. This John says.

Carol recalled two things of her conversation with you: you said you didn't know what John wanted you to do; and there was no money in it anyway.

Each in a different way is disappointing to me. I hope in time both are to you. If and when this happens, you will have matured some in your thinking and attitudes.

Good luck.